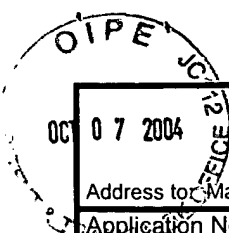


RCE # 61



REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Address to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Application No. 09/675,977
Filing Date September 29, 2000
First Named Inventor Frank P. Hart
Art Unit 2116
Examiner Name Du, Thuan N.
Attorney Docket No. 042390.P9730

RECEIVED

OCT 13 2004

Technology Center 2100

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See instruction sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114** – Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. ☐ Previously submitted If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Other

10/08/2004 MAHMED1 00000083 09675977

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790.00 OP

2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months. Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 02-2666

i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Processing fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(i) for Limited Suspension of Action

iv. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 790.00 enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type) John P. Ward

Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 40,216

Signature _____

Date October 4, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

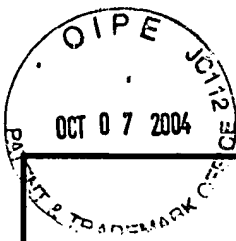
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Name (Print/Type) _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Express Mail No. (only if applicable): _____



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- iii. ☐ Other _____
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type) John P. Ward Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 40,216
Signature [Signature] Date 10/4/04

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

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Name (Print/Type) Judy L. Steinkorov
Signature [Signature] Date 10/04/04

Express Mail No. (only if applicable): _____